



THE COORDINATING CENTER
INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 28

Hearing Date: March 30, 2022

Position: Support

The Coordinating Center strongly supports *Senate Bill 28 – Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver - Participation and Applications*. This bill increases the cap on the number of people who can receive a community-based services waiver and improves communication with people on the wavier waitlist.

Our organization provides care coordination services for many individuals pending enrollment and enrolled in home and community-based waivers. We have seen firsthand the transformative effect of the services provided under these waivers; however, we have also seen the difficulties many people experience trying to access waivers. The current waitlist process is so dysfunctional that we know people who have died before they ever received waiver services.

Under the current waitlist process, the State of Maryland provides very little feedback to individuals on the registry list and the information they do provide is often legally complex. In the past, organizations like The Coordinating Center used to work collaboratively with the State of Maryland to proactively contact people on the waitlist. The Coordinating Center would like to see the State of Maryland reinstate the proactive contact of people on the waitlist and would be interested in participating in these efforts if the State of Maryland would provide reimbursement for the work.

We ask for a favorable report. Please let us know if we can provide any support for your consideration of this crucial legislation by contacting Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.